INTRO. A& The clincher in Dr. Coat's prayer- if we would do justice and love mercy we must walk with God.

Doing justice and loving mercy is walking with God. If unconscious of God's presence, like the two on their way to Emmaus with Jesus. When they did learn the truth their whole walk was explained and became to them a great light and inspiration. Just so with the manwho does justice and loves mercy, when he finds out that he has been walking with God, his acts of justice and mercy take on a new meaning.

B. Our text-another lofty peak in the mts of God's Word.
Mark 12:29k31.

Happened on the Tuesday of Passion week. Pharisees had joined with Sadducees to question Jesus so as to ensnare him in his answers. The ? of tribute to Caesar-Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar or not? The Saducees ?, concerning the resurrection.

The scribe then asked the ?, What commandment is the first of all? Jesus reply: Mark 12:29-31.

Shows Jesus' mastery of the Jewish scriptures and also his independence of thot.

Let us stand for a few moments on the summit of this lofty peak in the mts of God's work and take in its perspetive view of life.

3. My first gaze is a great surprise-Is Love a law and subject to law? And can we be commanded to love?

Law is a rule of action, and experience teaches us that one of the laws governing us is that when persons are thrown together they grow to love each other- the cases of antipathy for each other are rare and these exceptions but prove the rule.

It is because of this law that there are so many unfortunate marriages. Persons ought not to associate with those whom they ought not to marry; it is hazardous to do so.

This same law works untold good, saving many loveless marriages from total wreck. Most persons learn to love each othe other when they live together for a length of time.

A poor man took a little baby to keep for pay, receiving so much a week for doing so. Soon the pay ceased, but this poor family continued to feed, clothe and care for the baby, even tho there were 7 children besides, simply because they had learned to love the child and could not bear to give it up.

You may not love any of the babies in an orphanage, but adopt adopt one, take it home with you and care for it awhile, and you wi will discover that you have grown to love the child beyond measure.

Apply this rule of action to Jesus Christ. Jesus said," and I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto myself." This simply means that if Christ is made known to men men will love him. There is something so attractive and inspiring about the personality of Jesus Christ that but to know him means that we must love him. A young convert said,"If any man does not love Jesus it is because he does not know Him".

It is the same with God. When we get to know God and know to under

stand his ways, the sacred fires of love are kindled within us us, and we just cant help loving God with wll our heart, soul, strength and mind!

II. My second reflection upon this sublime summit of our text is also a quention-How can the commandment,"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" be equal to, if not the same as, the first one,"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, etc."

1.This command does not mean that we should love ourselves as many do-selfishly-but as we ought to love ourselves-unselfishly. And there is more unselfish love in the world than we realize. The man who stands alone, who does not love anybody and whom noone loves, is so rare as to be conspicuous.

"I love you" is a universal expression and all-powerful influence. The child's "Mamma, I love you"

How these three words inspire the young man and make him d dare anything when the come to him from the heart made glad by his own confession of love!

The mother's parting words to her son,"I love you".

And it is one of the blessed thots of life that this human love between parent and child, brother and sister, between young maiden and young man, between husband and wife and betwen friend and friend, when pure and ennobling becomes divine love! God is loved when we love father and mother, brother and sister, husband and wife, and friend loves friend aright.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto to the least of these my brethren ye have done it unto me."

The story of little 4-yr old Gregory, as told by Allen Meacham. Gregory's older brother who had gone to France in the war had been wrecked in an aeroplane. Allen Meacham had bid the young man "Good-bye" as he left New York. A fine specimen of manhood and a most loveable fellow. The oldest son of his mother and the pride of her heart. Father had died the year before. The realization that the mother must be churhed beneath the load of sorrow, led Allen Meacham to visit the home. The mother was at the table holding her 4-yr old Gregory on her lap, giving him his supper. When the two friends met, the mothers lips began to quiver and eyes fill with tears. Then it was that little Gregory

put his arms around mother's neck and said,"Muvver, muvver, put your weeps on my cheek."

What sympathy! Gregory was to his mother at that moment God's representative taking upon himself the sorrow that mortal could not bear, even as Christ took upon Himself the burden of sin which no man could carry!

Conclusion:-

Phil. 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things.

All these things wheresoever found are from God and religion is universal. Religion ~~ØØØØ~~ not the church, its ordinances or its creed, nor even its Bible, for these are but the meas to religion which is to love God and fellow man wholeheartedly and unselfishly.

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